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EXHIBIT 9
DATE 1/19/09
HB 99

January 19th, 2009

TO: Members of the House State Administration Committee

FROM: Joy Bruck, volunteer advocate AARP Montana

RE: HB 99, Revise proof of residency requirements for voter registration and voting

Mr. Chair and members of the committee, my name is Joy Bruck and I'm a volunteer advocate for AARP Montana. AARP Montana is a non-profit non-partisan organization of 165,000 members in this state. We believe the right to vote is the most basic of all political rights.

House Bill 99 would definitely disenfranchise Montana's older voters. Many elderly people no longer drive nor complete their own taxes; family members may have helped a relative do their taxes, so these documents would not be available. This bill would hinder and disenfranchise many of the most faithful voters, older Montanans, because a driver's license or tax return are not available. AARP Montana believes that everyone should work for a voting process that is not burdensome nor hampers access.

House Bill 99 establishes eligibility in too restrictive of a manner, and therefore we strongly urge your opposition. A utility bill and the last four digits of a social security number are sufficient forms of identity for registering to vote in our opinion. Thank you.